

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 4 has been canceled, and claims 1, 6, 13, and 16 have been amended. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, and 5-16 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

In the Office Action at pages 2-4, numbered items 2-9, claims 1-4, 6-7, 11, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,003,498 to Ota, et al. Applicant notes that claim 2 was cancelled in the Response filed June 2, 2004. This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Independent claim 1, as currently amended, is directed to a computer-aided design system having a modeling mechanism that uses both two-dimensional and three-dimensional views of a solid object in an integrated manner. More specifically, amended independent claim 1 recites a “two-dimensional drawing generating means for generating a plurality of orthographic projection views representing a three-dimensional model being defined as a collection of three-dimensional geometric features” and “maintaining a projection view database about associations between graphic elements contained in said generated plurality of orthographic projection views and the three-dimensional geometric features.” Further, amended independent claim 1 recites “identifying one of the three-dimensional geometric features that corresponds to the selected graphic element based on the projection view database, and setting the identified geometric feature to a selected state for further manipulation.” The features previously found in claim 4 have been amended into claim 1 in order to clarify that the projection view database maintains data about associations between graphic elements of the orthographic projection views and three-dimensional geometric features of a three-dimensional model. Independent claims 6, 13, and 16 have been similarly amended to clarify the projection view database.

Applicant respectfully submits that Ota, et al., cited by the Examiner, fails to teach or suggest “maintaining a projection view database about association between graphic elements contained in said generated plurality of orthographic projection views and the three-dimensional

geometric features.” Further, Applicant respectfully submits that Ota, et al. fails to teach or suggest that a three-dimensional geometric feature is identified based on the projection view database maintained by the two-dimensional drawing means. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 and claims 3, 5, and 7-12, which depend either directly or indirectly therefrom, patentably distinguish over the prior art and are in condition for allowance.

Independent claims 6, 13, and 16 have been similarly amended. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claims 6, 13, and 16, and those claims depending either directly or indirectly therefrom, also patentably distinguish over the prior art and are in condition for allowance.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action at pages 4-5, numbered items 11-12, claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Ota, et al. as applied to claims 1, 2-4, 6-7, 11, and 16. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. The rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

As claim 5 depends directly from amended independent claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5 patentably distinguishes over the prior art for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 1, and therefore is in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action at pages 5-9, numbered items 13-21, claims 8-9 and 12-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ota, et al. as applied to claims 1, 2-4, 6-7, 11, and 16 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,701,403. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. The rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Dependent claims 8, 9, and 12 depend, either directly or indirectly, from amended independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8, 9, and 12 patentably distinguish over the prior art for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 1 and are therefore in condition for allowance.

Amended independent claim 13 has been amended in a manner similar to claim 1 to recite that the method includes “entering the orthographic projection view data into an orthographic projection view database about associations between graphic elements contained in said orthographic projection view data and said plurality of features of the object.” Applicant respectfully submits that the prior art fails to teach or suggest at least this feature of the claim.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claim 13 and claims 14 and 15, which depend directly therefrom, patentably distinguish over the prior art for at least this reason and are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

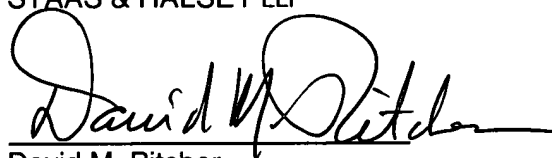
If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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